

Applic. No. 10/608,631

Amdt. dated December 30, 2004

Reply to Office action of October 5, 2004

Remarks/Arguments:

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-16, 18, and 19 remain in the application. Claims 1, 2, 12, 13, and 19 have been amended. Claim 17 has been cancelled.

In item 2 on page 2 of the Office action, claims 1-11, 14, 16, 18, and 19 have been rejected as being fully anticipated by Gelfand et al. (U.S. Patent No. 3,002,731) (hereinafter "Gelfand") under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

It is appreciatively noted from item 3 of the Office action, that claim 12, 13, 15, and 17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended so as to include the subject matter of allowable claim 17. Therefore, claim 1 is allowable. Since claim 1 is allowable, dependent claims 2-11, 14, 16 and 18 are allowable as well.

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Allowable claim 12 has been amended so as to include the subject matter of claims 1 and 11. Therefore claim 12 is allowable as well.

Allowable claim 13 has been amended so as to include the subject matter of claims 1 and 11. Therefore claim 13 is allowable as well.

Claim 19 has been amended to include the subject matter of allowable claim 15 and claims 11 and 14. Therefore, claim 19 is allowable as well.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel respectfully requests a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out.

Since only allowable claims remain, the early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is solicited herewith.

If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made.

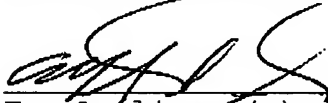
The fee for one additional independent claim in the amount of \$200 is enclosed herewith.

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Please charge any other fees which might be due with respect
to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner &
Greenberg P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,

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For Applicant(s)

AKD:cgm

December 30, 2004

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